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CPYRGHT



Professor Cyril E. Black at his Princeton University office.

Communism His Specialty

When rumors swept the world last Monday that Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev was dead, the telephone started ringing in the office of Professor Cyril Edwin Black at Princeton University.

The calls came from newspaper men, government officials, concerned colleagues.

There was nothing unusual in this because Professor Black, now rounding out 25 years on the faculty, has long been considered a leading authority on the Communist movements in Russia and the Balkans.

In addition to his long studies, he draws much knowledge from personal experience. Although born in Bryson City, N.C., he spent much of his boyhood in Bulgaria,

where his father founded the American College in Sofia.

Last January 7 Dr. Black's name came up in the Bulgarian spy trial of Ivan Assen Georgiev who was executed for high treason. Georgiev said Black had been his CIA contact. Dr. Black denied ever being a CIA agent.

It was the second time the Princeton Professor had been named in Soviet spy charges. The first time was in 1949.

In 1943, Professor Black a strapping 6 foot 4 man of action, was "drafted" by the U.S. Department of State for a war time assignment, and in 1944-45 he accompanied a special American mission to Bulgaria, Rumania and the Soviet Union.

He also was on leave from Princeton in 1947 when he served as an American delegate on the U.N. Security Council commission investigating Greek frontier incidents.

Professor Black visited Russia in 1956. Two years later he returned as a member of the three-man delegation sent by the U.S. government to observe the elections of the Supreme Soviet. At that time, he had a two-hour interview with Khrushchev.

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